The Marker Lamp

Volume 57 **Number 2** **Spring 2010**

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CAPROCK EXPRESS
passenger • rail

60th Anniversary
LSR Convention

Lubbock, Texas
June 9-12, 2011

Mark you calendar
to attend

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The Marker Lamp

The Official Publication of
The Lone Star Region of The
National Model
Railroad Association

Volume 57, Number 2

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The editorial policy of **The Marker Lamp**, the official publication of **The Lone Star Region**, shall be to contribute, wherever possible, to the promotion, growth and understanding of the hobby of Model Railroading, within the confines of good taste and responsibility.

The Marker Lamp is published once each quarter by and for the members of **The Lone Star Region** of **The National Model Railroad Association**.

Articles appearing in **The Marker Lamp** are the opinions of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the position or policies of the officers or membership of **The Lone Star Region** or **The National Model Railroad Association**.

Address all correspondence, news, photos and drawings to the editor. All material will be gladly accepted and will be used depending on the availability of space and suitability of material. None will be returned unless a stamped, self-addressed envelope is provided.

Correspondence relating to Pike Ads, Dealer Ads, Address Changes and requests for extra copies should be addressed to **Tom Browning**
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President's Message

by Bill McPherson

Something exciting is happening! Maybe all of the "stuff" going on around the globe or in Washington, Austin, Wisconsin, or wherever is causing many other "normal folks" to seek out other ways of accomplishment. What in the world am I talking about? It's this great new spirit of wide-spread ***helping each other***.

During the last 60 years of LSR conventions, we have ventured to Houston, Dallas -Fort Worth, and San Antonio on alternating years. Frequently our experiences have been enriched by having our annual events in numerous other places such as New Orleans, Amarillo, Shreveport, Lubbock, Round Rock, and Longview. Putting on a large LSR convention is not the easiest thing in the world even if you have previous experience. Because of the wide variety of activities such as clinics, contests, layout and prototype tours, etc. which we have at our conventions, a lot of man-hours and wide variety of expertise are needed. For the larger cities, this is not as much of a problem. However, for the areas with only a few model railroaders, it can become tremendous.

The wonderful change I am seeing is that members from all over the Lone Star Region are pitching in with many man-hours to assist Dave Lambert's staff in Lubbock. After all, these are *regional* conventions, so why not should the whole region share in the preparations and assistance in helping out at the convention? This assistance currently going on is way beyond that of a half-hearted "call me if you need help" comment. It's more like "I am knocking on your door with my tools in hand ready to help you work on your layout or assist you with other things. Let's get started together."

This working together is becoming even more wide spread. Just this past week we have been talking with the guys in the Rocky Mountain Region about their planning for their 2013 convention. Yes, they are that far ahead. Dave Lamberts, chairman of the Lubbock Caprock Xpress convention, has invited their guys to come down to Lubbock this June to see how we are doing things, present clinics, offer suggestions, and basically become involved in our convention compared to just attending. Today I received word that a bunch of these Rocky Mountain Region guys are coming to Lubbock. Then we can return the favors by assisting their 2013 convention in Albuquerque. This same involvement would also apply to our own LSR attendees. Little things mean a lot. For example, offer to sit in at the contest room to give the door person a short break or bring the registrar a Coke.

We recently lost one of the most gracious, caring, and influential persons ever to have been a part of model railroading. Paula Packer, the beloved wife of past LSR President Jim Packer (MMR No. 124) passed away on March 2, 2011. She attended almost all regional and many national conventions. When asked what best characterized Paula, her three children (all with children of their own) responded: "Just Do It". Paula lived her entire life "just doing it" for her family, her church, and for the LSR. This spirit of intensive involvement instead of sitting on the sideline was the inspiration for my writing this article about the ways in which many LSR members are helping others to "just do it".

View from the Spar Pole

By Chuck Lind, MMR

First I want to pass on my condolences to Jim Packer and his family at the loss of his wife Paula. Paula was a fixture at the Lone Star Region Conventions, and one of the nicest people you would ever want to meet. She always greeted you with a smile and a kind word. As many of you know I spend quite a bit on time in the contest room and that is where I saw the creative side of Paula. She made some very beautiful pieces and I especially remember some of the Santa's she entered. She leaves an empty place at the banquet table that will be missed for many years to come.

February took me back to Durango with a few friends to ride the Winter Photo Special again. I just cannot get enough of riding those narrow gauge rails and with a dusting of new snow, it made for some wonderful photos. Hopefully I will have the time to get some printed and mounted in time for the LSR in Lubbock.

At last years Narrow Gauge Convention, Craig Brantley, Eddie Carroll and myself made a bid that was accepted to host the 2015 Narrow Gauge Convention in Houston over the Labor Day weekend. If you are a narrow gauger or lean that direction with standard gauge short line railroading, let us know and we will add you to our email list. We are trying to have some one day mini meets around the state to get everyone ready for the convention. So far we have had one in Houston and by the time you read this we will have had another one in the Dallas area. Great get together with clinics and some show and tell of your latest projects and of course fellowship.

CAPROCK XPRESS
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Breaking News!!

Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad

2 FREE sets of 2 round trip tickets for 2
4 tickets total

&

Cumbres & Toltec Narrow Gauge Railroad

2 FREE sets of 2 tickets for 2 including Lunch
4 tickets total

&

Texas State Railroad

2 FREE round trip tickets
2 FREE round trip tickets INCLUDING A CAB RIDE ONE WAY

You might already know that this year, for just registering for the 2011 LSR Convention, your name will get put in a pot for the "**Caproc Xpress Great Sunday Morning Drawing**" for a chance to win: And you *don't have to spend any extra Money...* **Just sign up and show up** for this year's **LSR Convention, June 9-11**, and you could take home one of these wonderful vacation prizes.
Is that cool or what? Nothing of this magnitude has ever been done at any LSR Convention before! Hundreds of dollars worth of train excitement. **FOR YOU..... FOR FREE !**

AND NOW COMES ANOTHER BIG SURPRISE FOR 2011,
NEVER BEFORE DONE AT A LSR CONVENTION ! …
—Free chance to win
a **night for 2** at the wonderfully restored**,**
historic "Harvey House Hotel"…
including breakfast as you watch the trains pass by!

"Early Bird Special"

your registration will be discounted to **only $79.**
That's right… **Just 79 bucks!**
And here's what all you get for your 79 bucks:
—Free Saturday Banquet and dinner
with a special **guest speaker.**
—Free Sunday Morning Breakfast
—Free clinics- Two days of clinics on every subject in model railroading, taught by some of the best MMR's and modelers in country.
—Free admission to the **contest room** to view and photograph all of the **award winning models by the region's top modelers.**
—Free access to the **silent auction** and a chance to pick up some **great railroad bargains.**
—Free Prototype tours you can't get anywhere else.
—Free admission to a half dozen diversified layouts including Bob Mamlock's brand new, huge 20' x 100' "Slaton Muleshoe, and Pacific" Layout.
—Free classes and tours for the **Non Rail folks.**
All of this, and more for just 79 bucks !!
That's the biggest "LSR Convention bang for your bucks" ever !
AND WHAT ABOUT THE HOTEL ROOMS??
CHEAPEST RATE IN YEARS:
Your room in the **Holiday Inn**, site of the convention, is **only $82 (single or double occupancy)**
if you reserve your it now on the "early bird special".
Man, at that price, you can't afford to stay at home!

SO DON'T MISS ALL OF THE FUN AT THIS YEAR'S LSR CONVENTION!

BOTH THE GUYS and the GALS to do together!

Take a break !!
from your railroad fun for a visit to the ...
LLANO WINE AND CLAY FESTIVAL

A HUGE ARTS AND CRAFTS EVENT
JUNE 11, 2011

WATCH – glass blowers demonstrate glass blowing

WATCH – jewelry makers make jewelry

SEE – the work of famous photographers

TASTE – the famous wine of the Llano Estacado, the largest and most award winning winery in Texas!

EAT – from a large variety of food vendors

SEE – master clay workers and artists work their magic.

HEAR – live music all day

BUY - a plethora of arts and crafts

THE COST – NOTHING!!
(OK – the wine is $3.00 per glass)

This is a HUGE event which draws people from all over west Texas and eastern New Mexico...

AND A FUN BREAK FOR
BOTH GUYS AND GALS TO HAVE SOME FUN TOGETHER !

Open from 10:00 A.M. until 5:00 P.M.
so you can come and go at your convenience.

DON'T MISS THIS AND THE OTHER FUN FAMILY EVENTS!!

Fabulous Historical Railroad Prototype Tour offered at this year's NMRA LSR 2011 Convention

The "National Ranching Heritage Center" (and Railroad Museum)

Experience Railroad History and the real West at the National Ranching Heritage Center, where the story of ranching and railroading in North America is told through the preservation of 48 authentic structures including a restored depot, a steam engine, and also many restored rail cars, all displayed on this awesome 16-acre site.

The structures also include an actual old time bunkhouse, barns, dugouts, a ranch headquarters, windmills, a blacksmith shop and much, much more. All of the structures and rail cars date from the late 1700s through the 1950s and are authentically restored and furnished.

You Will See – the beautifully restored **Robes Depot** which was part of the **AT&SF system** and was the first business establishment in the small town of Ropesville.

You Will See –**Fort Worth and Denver's engine no. 401**. Built in 1923 by the Baldwin Locomotive Works of Philadelphia, Pa., this steam beauty was used for freight service on the Burlington Northern's main line. – a **rare double-deck stock car** that hauled sheep and small livestock and the **single-deck stock car** which carried cattle and horses. – the **wooden, off-set cupola caboose** where the cowhands escorting their herds rode.

You Will See – the prototypically re-located **cattle shipping pens** from the **King Ranch.** – the great number of **railroad artifacts** in the National Ranching Heritage Center's collection including a number of dinnerware pieces from the Santa Fe Railroad, used during their "golden age' of passenger rail.

A SPECIAL DOCENT (that's a $100 word for an available smart person with all of the answers) KNOWLEGABLE IN THE RAILROAD WILL BE AVAILABLE TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS DURING YOUR TOUR.

YOU HAVE
TWO CHOICES
OF TIMES TO TAKE YOUR TOUR…

TOUR DATES:
****June 10 (Friday) from 10:00 A.M to Noon**
****June 10 (Friday) from 2:00 P.M to 4:00 P.M.**
Thanks **Ron Warner** for lining up a great new prototype tour for us !

THIS IS A GLORIUS TRIP DOWN RAILROAD MEMORY LANE!

COME SEE ONE OF THE LARGEST WINDMILL MUSEUMS IN THE COUNTY

The American Wind Power Center

EVERYTHING FROM ANTIQUE WINDMILLS TO NEW WIND TURBINES

SPECIAL DISCLAIMER - LUBBOCK DOES *NOT* HAVE WINDSTORMS IN THE SUMMER I PROMISE!

This is huge museum with displays both indoors and out. We plan to have a tour of the Wind Mill Museum coupled with a catered BBQ dinner on Thursday evening ($15.00). The tour will be from 4:00 P.M to 5:30 P.M. Dinner will be served at 7:00 P.M.

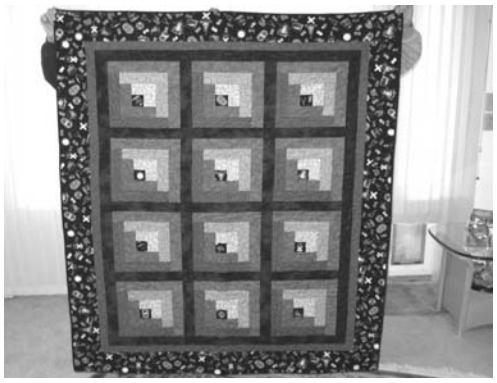
Al Fox, a well known local musician, will provide musical entertainment. Al says he can play anything – I bet he does requests.

TAKE THE BUS IF YOU DON'T WISH TO DRIVE

The bus will pick us up at the hotel, take us to the museum. Our dinning room has one on the biggest murals in the country. Painted by LaGina Fairbetter, the mural is 34' tall by 172' long. I have seen it - it is spectacular. A history of wind power in a painting.

Everyone has a Great Time in Lubbock!

CONVENTION NEWS
from the female point of view…
LOOKS WHAT OUR LSR LADIES HAVE DONE THIS YEAR !
A
*****FABULOUS RAFFLE PRIZE*****



THANKS TO THE GREAT WORK OF
MARY LOU SCHOENBERG
&
JULIA DAVIS

WE ARE GOING TO RAFFLE OFF THIS BEAUTIFUL HAND-MADE QUILT… SO DON'T MISS IT

Lubbock Model Railroad Association
presents

CaprockXpress
Lone Star Region Convention
June 9 - 12, 2011
Early Registration Ends April 16, 2011

https://sites.google.com/site/lonestarregion2011/

CAPROCKXPRESS
passenger • rail

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Telephone: _____

NMRA #: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Name Desired on Badge (print please): _____

Spouse/Other attendees: _____

Hotel Reservations
Holiday Inn Park Plaza
3201 South Loop 289
Lubbock, TX 79423
806-797-3241

The Convention Rate is $82 per night Single or Double occupancy. This rate is good through Wednesday, May 11 , 2011.
Make your reservation directly by phone with the Holiday Inn and mention Lone Star Region Convention. No web or email reservation is available. Note: The convention rate is good only for June 8 - 12 when booked by May 11.

Regular Registration Includes

- Admission to clinics
- Access to the Contest Room to view and photograph some of the best model building in the Lone Star Region
- Access to the silent auction and the chance to bid on many railroad items
- Admission to the Saturday Night banquet featuring Guest Speaker
- Admission to the Sunday morning breakfast and annual Lone Star Region business meeting
- Select Extra Fare prototype tours, Make and Take Clinics and operating sessions
- Admission to area home layouts
- Rail fanning opportunities
- For more information contact: B.J. d'Orsay via mail: bj.dorsay@gmail.com

Caprock Xpress 2011 Convention Fee Schedule

Print this form after filling in your quantities, pressing tab key between each field.

	COST		QTY	TOTAL
REGULAR REGISTRATION				
Postmarked on or before April 16, 2011	$79	X		$
Postmarked after April 16, 2011	$89	X		$
SPOUSE REGISTRATION				
Postmarked on or before April 16, 2011	$79	X		$
Postmarked after April 16, 2011	$89	X		$
OTHER FAMILY REGISTRATION				
Minors (6-16 includes Banquet & breakfast)	$40	X		$
Minors under 6 free (No Meals)				
OPTIONS				
Day Pass (does not include Banquet or Breakfast) MUST be NMRA member	$28	X		$
Family Night Banquet (BBQ), American Windpower Center, Thursday, 6:00 PM With musical entertainment by LMRA member Al Fox.	$15	X		$
Saturday Night Banquet Only	$36	X		$
Sunday Morning Breakfast Only	$21	X		$
EXTRA FARE (Transportion is **not** provided, maps and directions will be provided)				
Prototype Tour 1 Harvey House, Slaton, Saturday, 10:30 - 12:30 with lunch	$15	X		$
Harvey House, Slaton, Saturday, 10:30 - 12:30 without lunch	$ 5	X		$
Prototype Tour 2 BNSF West Lubbock Yard , exact date and time TBA	N/C			
Prototype Tour 3 Cottonseed oil extraction, car loading and facility tour at PYCO - TBA	N/C			
Prototype Tour 4 Central Car Repair of the West Texas & Lubbock RR facility tour - TBA	N/C			
Convention Promotion Calendar 12-month 2011 (limited supplies)	$12	X		$
Convention Promotion Calendar 18-month (July 2011 - Dec. 2012)	$15	X		$
Convention Promotion Both Calendars (while 2011 supplies last)	$25	X		$
Basic Soldering Clinic by Harold Bryant (Make & Take) **Limit 25**	$25	X		$
NON RAIL EXTRA FARE (Transportion is **not** provided, maps and directions will be provided)				
Scrapbooking Class, Friday, 10:00 am - 12:00 PM (noon), location TBA	$25	X		$
Llano Estacado wine and clay pottery festival, Saturday, 10:00 am - 4:00 PM	N/C			
American Windpower Center tour, Thursday, 4:00 - 6:00 pm, $5.00 at the door	N/C			
Flower Arranging, Thursday, 10:00 11:30 am, location TBA	N/C			
MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS, ETC.				
NMRA Registration for non-NMRA members	$58	X		$
NMRA Rail Pass -- 6 Month Membership FOR Non NMRA members	$9.95	X		$
Facility Usage if not staying at the hotel or home (**see below**)	$25	X		$
			Total	$

Make checks payable to: Caprock Xpress

Your Name:

Check Number:

Note: The $25 facilities Usage Charge (primary registration only) applies to those who do not stay at their own home or at the convention hotel. The cost of the hotel's meeting rooms, banquet, and other facilities is offset by the attendees (locals as well as out-of-towners) purchasing the guaranteed number of hotel room nights. If this guaranteed number is not met, the use of the facilities would greatly increase the cost of the convention. Since every attendee benefits from the facilities, we are encouraging everyone to stay at the convention hotel.

Mail completed registration form with payment
(check payable to Caprock Xpress) to:

B.J. d'Orsay, Registrar
4206 38th Street
Lubbock, Tx 79413
806-790-7092 **bj.dorsay@gmail.com**

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Up The Track

By Bill Dryden

Here is the list of the upcoming events within the LSR of which I am aware. I will provide all the information YOU send me or I can glean from other publications, websites, etc., for these events. Additional information may be available through the NMRA Scale Rails and/or various trade magazines or various websites. Please forward any and all information about upcoming events or activities in your area, club, etc., to me via email at bdr149@airmail.net. Also, note that all show times and dates are at the discretion of the sponsoring organization and are subject to change. **The upcoming events**:

LSR Convention:

Lone Star Region 60th Annual Convention (2011)
Lubbock, TX
The Lone Star Region NMRA 60th Annual Convention will be held in Lubbock. Check the LSR website (www.lonestarregion.com). **Come all!! PARTICIPATE!!!**

Recurring events and meetings:

LSR Division 3 - Northeast Texas Division - Monthly Meeting
Garland
Nicholson Memorial Library, 625 Austin St., Garland, TX. Third Saturday, 10 am – 1 pm. Contact Jerry Hoverson (jhoverson@tx.rr.com) or visit the Division 3 Page on the LSR website (www.lonestarregion.com).

Alamo Model Railroad Engineers Meeting
San Antonio
Zucht Building, Texas Transportation Museum, 11791 Wetmore Rd., San Antonio, TX. Second Friday, 7:30 p.m. Contact Peter Shavney (210) 317-3661 or Gene Turner (210) 355-2777 or visit the website (www.alamomodelrailroadengineers.com).

Houston Area Live Steamers
Houston ,TX Area
Zube Park, 17802 Roberts Rd., Hockley, TX (north of Houston off Hwy 290). Public Run Days, third Saturday (March – November), 9 am. Contact Peter Bryan at peterb@pdq.net or visit the website (www.hals.org).

North Texas Council of Railroad Clubs Meeting
Irving, TX
Third Tuesday. Contact Chris Atkins (chris@railroadmodelers.com) or visit the website www.dfwtrainshows.com.

Events and Shows:

June 2011

9th – 12th **60th LSR Convention**, Lubbock, TX. For more information http://www.lonestarregion.com/

July 2011

3rd – 9th **NMRA National Convention**, Sacramento, CA. For more information http://www.x2011west.org/

August 2011

20th – 21st **The Great Train Expo**, Mandaville, LA. For more information http://www.trainexpoinc.com/schedule.html (From their web site: "The show information link will appear 2-3 weeks prior to the show date")

Future Events (More Information to follow as available)

October 2011

9th – 10th **LMRA 28th Annual Train Show**, Fort Worth, TX

15th – 16th **The Great Train Expo**; Austin, TX. For more information http://www.trainexpoinc.com/schedule.html (From their web site: "The show information link will appear 2-3 weeks prior to the show date")

November 2011

18th – 19th **NTC Fort Worth Area Train Show**

Secretary/Treasurer's Report

by Tom Browning

For the Third Fiscal Quarter of 2010/2011

Beginning Balance 11/01/2010	
LSR Checking Account	$1,507.35
Vanguard CD Fund	$33,335.04
Acct Receivable Due 2010 Convention	$2,000.00
Total LSR Net Worth	**$36,842.39**
Not included in Total LSR Net Worth	
Funds Held For Division 1	*$3,400.50*
Funds Held For Division 3	*$1,450.89*
Funds Held For Division 4	*$4,255.60*
Funds Held For Zahn Donation	*$800.00**
LSR Proceeds	
Vanguard CD Fund Interest	$2.27
Vanguard Convention Fund Interest	$1.72
Pike Ads	$160.00
Convention 2010 Loan Repay	$2,000.00
Convention 2010 Per Capita Fee	$234.00
Convention 2010 Silent Auction	$94.00
Convention 2010 Country Store (LSR cars, etc.)	$238.00
Total Proceeds	**$2,729.99**
LSR Disbursements	
Transfer 2010 loan repay to Vanguard	$2,000.00
SecTres Postal Expense	$8.80
Total Disbursements	**$2008.80**
Net Proceeds/ Disbursements	**$721.19**
Ending Balance 01/31/2011	
LSR Checking Accounts Total	$2,224.55
Vanguard Money Market Accts Total	$35,339.03
Total LSR Net Worth	**$37,563.58**
Not included in Total LSR Net Worth	
Funds Held For Division 1	*$3,400.50*
Funds Held For Division 3	*$1,450.89*
Funds Held For Division 4	*$4,255.60*
Funds Held For Zahn Donation	*$800.00**

* Theses funds are restricted and will become unrestricted at $200.00 per year to comply with terms of donation.

At the end of November 2010 the membership was 1,034 and at the end of March 2011 the membership was 1,038. Please welcome our new members listed below:

December 2010

Richard Cohen, Ranger, TX – 1
John Garrett, Keller, TX – 1
Richard Mucker, N. Richland Hills, TX – 1
Cameron Stewart, Keller, TX – 1
Alex Morrow, Richardson, TX – 3
Paul Curtis, Dayton, TX – 8
Gregory Perkins, Humble, TX – 8

January 2011

Paul Anderson, Weatherford, TX – 1
Andrew Winn, Corinth, TX – 1
Edmund Christy, Metairie, LA – 2
Jay Morrow, Lubbock, TX – 5
Allan Adams, San Antonio, TX – 6
William Smith, San Antonio, TX – 6
James Woods, Bayton, TX - 8

February 2011

Jerry Kaufman, Carrollton, TX – 1
Vic Pantuso, Ft. Worth, TX – 1
Richard Pongratz, Crowley, TX – 1
Stanley Stough, Weatherford, TX – 1
Jerry Vandiver, Wichita, TX – 1
John Wright, Lewisville, TX – 1

March 2011

Kevin Lambert, Ft Worth, TX – 1
Don Domzalski, Flower Mound, TX – 1
Arthur Weller, Slidell, LA – 2
Shawn Levy, Amite, LA – 2
Craig Tribuzi, Plano, TX – 3
Nicholas Stevens, Forney, TX – 3
Shannon Crane, Forney, TX – 3
Dick Sowash, Georgetown, TX – 4
Art Graf, Austin, TX – 4
Chuck Ellis, Austin, TX – 4
David Hunt, Lubbock, TX – 5
Al Fox, Lubbock, TX – 5
Shirley Bunting, Lubbock, TX – 5
Lawrence Bunting, Lubbock, TX – 5
Niles Bishop, Lubbock, TX – 5
Bernard Strassner, Freindwood, TX – 8
Steve Smith, Houston, TX – 8
Nancy Ann Sculz, Houston, TX – 8
Mike Broussard, Richmond, TX – 8
William Bohn, Orange TX – 8
Bill Boeker, Baytown, TX – 8
George Barnes, Orange, TX – 8

New Officers Elected

By Gary McMills

2011 LSR Election Results after the counting of the ballots sent in by the membership of the Lone Star Region. The new and returning officers will begin their term during the Board meeting held in Lubbock this June.

Here are the results of the election:

President- Bill McPherson
Vice President.- Robert Barnett
Secretary - Treasurer -Thomas Browning

Division 1 Director - Chris Atkins
Division 3 Dir.- Jerry Hoverson
Division 5 Dir. - Dave Lamberts
Division 7 Dir. - Don Kimmel

Company Store Inventory as of October 15, 2010

All cars sold out.

Other items available

Cloth Region Patches $5.00 each (Only LSR Life – 35 avail.)
Auto/Window Region Decal $ .50 (10 avail.)

N Scale (13 avail.) Nevadun Decals $2.00 per sheet
HO Scale (8 avail.) & N Scale (22 avail.) Daw Cha Southern Decals $3.00 per sheet

Shipping
Please add $1.00 for patches and decals

Matthew Latham, Dispatcher
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Flower Mound, TX 75022-4945
972-358-6168
E-mail: wnrailway@yahoo.com

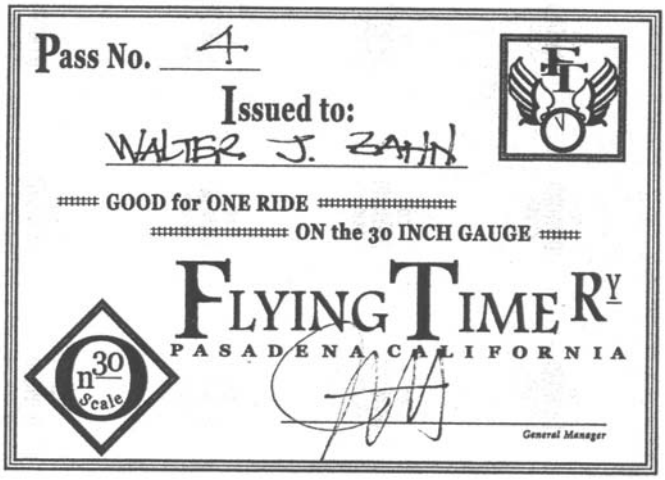
Pass Exchange

There seems to be an interest in the Lone Star Region to bring the Pass Exchange program back to life. Walter Zahn has decided to work on renewing interest in this program. If you are interested in participating please send him 2 samples of your pass and in return you will get a pass and a list of Active pass exchangers. Walter will review the passes and send a pass of the quarter that will be displayed in the *Marker Lamp*.

Please help Walter get this program moving again. Send you passes to:

Walter Zahn
3309 Point East Drive
Mesquite, Texas 75150-2645

PASS of the Quarter



The above copy of Flying Time Ry pass was subbmitted by Jerry Eaton, 455 San Juan Place, Pasadena, California 91107. Of the passes received this quarter this was one of the best. Jerry is new to pass exchange and interested to exchange with other railroaders. With his pass he also included a timetable and a block of tickets all very professionally rendered.

One of the great layouts you will see in Lubbock 2011

Cowcatcher Division 1

by Chris Atkins
Email: chris@railroadermodelers.com
Phone: 214-222-1285
Web:http://cowcatcherdivision.com

Hi gang, I hope spring has sprung in your part of the division. The LSR convention in Lubbock is just around the corner. Hopefully you all are making plans to visit our friends to the west. Lubbock is a great railroad town, and the group out there is putting together a great convention.

One of the highlights will be the awarding of Master Model Railroader to Bob Mangrum. Bob completed his final AP certificate earlier this year, and was awarded MMR #456. Please take the opportunity to congratulate Bob. I know a couple of you are close to completing the requirements.
Maybe we'll see you up there next year.

In February, we had a division meeting at the Texas Western, where Joe Batson presented a clinic called "Building an On30 Westside Lumber log car using Cerrobend" We also had a popular vote contest for the best logging equipment model. The next meeting will be May 21 at the Texas Western club at 6807-A Anglin Dr. in Ft. Worth. Please come and bring a friend.

We received a nomination for a young model railroader named Dustin Lambert. Dustin and his dad are members of the Texas Western club in Ft. Worth. I hear Dustin is very enthusiastic about trains and I'm sure he will be a great youth scholarship recipient.

The North Texas Council of Railroad Clubs has come up with a plan to continue next year with two shows as usual, and the division will continue to be part of the council and help put on the train shows in Ft. Worth and Plano.

I hope to see you all at the next meeting. If you have any questions or suggestions, you can contact me at chris@railroadmodelers.com. More information can be found found at http://cowcatcherdivision.com

Bayou Division 2

by Dick Schneider
Email: trains42@aol.com
Phone: 337-364-6931

The Saturday morning breakfast group in Baton Rouge, LA is still going strong. They meet at Fred's on Airline Hwy by Cortana Mall, in Baton Rouge, LA, at 8:00am. Come on over and give them a try. Lots of comradery and good times to be had by all.

The **Louisiana Rail Run** was hosted, and sponsored, by Jim Lofland and Art Houston last February 25, 26 and 27, 2011 and included Lou Schoultz's layout in Covington, LA; Art Houston's layout in Houma, LA; Jim Lofland's layout and the MidSouth Layout, both in Baton Rouge, LA. All of the layouts ran beautifully. The Louisiana Rail Run was a great success and everyone had a great time. Approximately 24 railroaders attended as well as a whole passel of our locals. Several layouts are currently under construction and we hope to have some ready for operations in the near future. Walter Rieger's in particular.

The MidSouth Model Railroad Club in Baton Rouge lost it's owner and best friend, Jack Green, in December. They have encountered some of the difficulties that can occur when the owner of the building housing the layout passes on and the remaining club members are formed around the layout. The remaining members took stock of their situation and met with the current landlord, Jack's wife, Linda, and worked out a temporary solution for the club and layout. The members held an election and voted Rod Fredericks as their President, Mickey Guidroz as VP, and Gary McMills as Secy/Treas. The club has expanded its membership and been granted status as a Non-Profit Corporation under 501 by the IRS and the State of Louisiana. MMRC has also developed a set of bylaws and a constitution. They are moving right along and planning for their future.

The HogRail/Ark-LA-Tex Interchange is underway and will be conducted July 14-18 in Belle Vista and Bentonville, AR. Jim Thompson and Peter Bryant of Houston, TX, and Jim Lofland and Art Houston of Baton Rouge and Houma, LA are the architects. I was told the number expected to attend, but my Alzheimers immediately kicked in and promptly filed the info in an inaccessible area of my brain. Maybe I can tell you more in the Summer issue of the Marker Lamp. Its been a pleasure chewing the rag with ya'll. Remember…."Laissez les bon ton rouler!" – "Let the good times roll!"

Trinity River Division 3

by Jerry Hoverson, MMR
Email: jhoverson@tx.rr.com
Phone: 972-540-5315

Hope you're making plans to attend the CaprockXpress in Lubbock. Since Lubbock is a "wildcard" host it might be a while before we get to go back so DON'T miss this opportunity for a great great time.

Our monthly meetings at the Nicholson Memorial Library, 625 Austin Street, downtown Garland are still being interrupted by the renovation project taking place at the library. Not to worry, we're still holding our meetings at the North branch located at 3845 N. Garland Avenue for at least April and May. We still meet on the third Saturday of every month at 10:15. Keep watching for the email reminders I send out with the upcoming agenda a week or two prior to the meeting. If you are not getting this email notification I don't have your current email address. Please send your information to me at

jhoverson@tx.rr.com so I can include you and you can join us for all the fun!

The big news is once again we had a terrific Plano Train Show and signed up a bunch of new members, 16 in all. Welcome aboard everyone!!!!

To welcome our new members we held a "Model Railroading 101" class at our January meeting. I was blown away, we had 40+ people attend and all were very active in the discussions. Everyone was so involved, asking questions, providing techniques and personal experiences that we ran out of time at the library before we were able to finish all the topics. That's 4 hours of discussions and we still didn't finish.

February – This was a continuation of the "Model Railroading 101" where we took a deeper dive into structures including different types of kits, materials, tools, lighting and so on. We've also introduced a DCC segment that will become a regular part of the meetings and will cover a different DCC topic each month

March – With the "101" class finished we decided to take things to the next level and talked about "setting the scene" with details, weathering and shrubbery. Then we went into "telling a story with your scene" with several examples and stories to go along with it. Everyone really enjoyed this part and proved once again that it's not about the models themselves but about the people behind the models and what they represent. In the DCC segment we leveled the playing field so that all those members that have heard about DCC but weren't quite sure about it were brought up to speed and would feel comfortable with DCC. This will open the door for future meeting DCC Segments.

As you can see Trinity River Division is doing lots of activities and in the coming months we plan on continuing doing even more. So if you're in Trinity River Division or any other division (in fact we've got new friends from Oklahoma joining us each month for our meetings) and just want to join in, we're looking at an exciting year coming up with lots and lots of fun railroad things to do.

Take care all and get working on your latest project but most of all get involved with the division and have some railroading FUN!

Cen-Tex Division 4

by Jack Merkel
Email: ElmerMerk@aol.com
Phone: 512-355-3289

We had 34 people attend our Division 4 meeting in Round Rock on Feb 26. **David Barrow** gave an excellent clinic on "Choices for building and operating a model railroad". David's clinic covered everything from prototype research to track design, benchwork construction, operating options and more. If you missed his clinic at the Division meeting, you can see it at the Lubbock convention. We also had a social time, show and tell table, NMRA poster and sign up area. We signed up three new members – **Dick Sowash, Chuck Ellis** and **Art Graf.** We ended the meeting with three winners of gift certificates to King's Hobby Shop (our meeting sponsor) as part of our "Deal or Duds" program. After the meeting, we toured **David Barrow's** Cat Mountain and Santa Fe RR and **Tommy Holt's** Western Pacific RR. A lot of thanks are due to **Larry Swigart** for all his ideas and "Care Packages" to help us with this meeting and to **Tom Pearson** for his ideas and support and of course to **David Barrow** for his clinic and layout tour and **Tommy Holt** for his layout tour.

By the time you read this, we will have held our next Division 4 meeting in Round Rock on April 30. If you do not receive emails announcing these meetings, I do not have a valid email address for you. Please send me your email address to elmermerk@aol.com so I can keep you informed about future meetings.

At our April Division 4 meeting, we will have an Achievement Program poster. This poster will highlight our three Division 4 MMR's - **Cyril Durrenberger, Carl Lester** and **Chuck Lind.** The poster will list the eleven certificate requirements in each of the four groups. Also, I will have a notebook with my progress on certificates.

Dave Lamberts and his crew are busy at work developing the **Caprock Express** convention in June. I am looking forward to attending several clinics, tours, contest room and visiting with all of you. Hope to see you in Lubbock on June 9 – 12.

Division 5

by Dave Lamberts
Email: DavidWL1944@aol.com
Phone: 806-792-7244

Plans are going well for this year's LSR Convention in Lubbock. For all the details please read my article found in this issue of the *Marker Lamp*. See you in June.

Division 6

by Tom Crosthwait
Email: crosthwait@sbcglobal.net
Phone: 210-647-3261

I haven't had too much time to work on models lately. We had a fire at our home just before Christmas that destroyed much of our backyard. The gazebo that hosted the margaritas after the Mogollon op sessions was consumed. We are almost back to 100% and will be ready to resume operations and building of the M&Sw RR. Oh, and the margaritas will be back also.

I am saddened to report that SANTRAK, San Antonio's "NTrak" group will have to move from their new home. The shopping center where they are currently located has been purchased and will be razed this summer. We hope that this group will find a new home quickly. This club will be very close to performing operations on their many modules once they are relocated.

Lots of things happening with the 1/1 scale railroad in San Antonio. Union Pacific has opened their intermodal yard on the southwest side of the city and changes are being made to the east yard also. Some of you were fortunate to take part in the trip to SoSan yard. The intermodal is just a short ways away to the west.

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Division 7

by Don Kimmell
Email: elf4kcs@mac.com
Phone: 318-798-7718

Hello again from green North Louisiana. Spring and almost Summer is in full bloom, along with various pollens and allergies!

First a plug for this year's convention. Dave and his crew are doing a great job preparing for our visit. Have you seen the list of door prizes? It makes the trip more than worthwhile. Sure it is a long drive, but take some music and friends and time flies, beside the country is interesting to look at, let alone the various small towns-but watch out for the speed traps! See you there.

By the time you read this, the Tyler Tap, Cotton Belt Historical Show will be over. It is 30 April-1May, so…what can I say? Hope to have seen you there!

The Longview Show in March was another success. Attendance was over 600 for the weekend, and most of the vendors I visited with had a good (profitable) show. It was a bit of a bittersweet time, as this was the last show Homer would be running, he is passing the management on to the next generation. Thank You Homer, you have done a great job all these years!

Our friends down in the southern end of the division have bee very busy, I am talking about the Rockwell Railroad/ Treehouse RR at the Children's Museum in Alexandria. Lou Bangma and crew have been "training" young engineers in DCC and operations for months now, and very successfully at that! He tells me that the young lassies tend to pick up the operations a bit quicker than the young lads, wild! They will be having their "Train Day"/ open house on Saturday 16 April. The Treehouse hours are: 9:00am-3:00pm weekdays, 9:00am-4:00pm on Saturdays. If you are in the area, stop by and say hello.

We will be gaining a new member in the near future, actually a returning one. Randy James is moving back to this area after a couple of years out in the "dry" country. Welcome Back!

Hope to see everyone in Lubbock in June!

Texas Gulf Division 8

by Ray Byer
Email: raybyer@yahoo.com
Phone: 713-472-4599

Well a new year has begun. Division 8 is up and running with events planned all year long. The first event of the year was in Beaumont, Texas, with a clinic on scenery and air brushing. The next event was the Third Annual Chili cook-off in Alvin, Texas. The next upcoming events will be clinics on model railroading at the Houston Railway Museum. This should start on the third Saturday of each month, going through September. Please check the Division 8 web-page for times and clinics.

I hope you are making plans to go to this year LSR Convention in June. I will be looking forward in see you there. Thanks for your time

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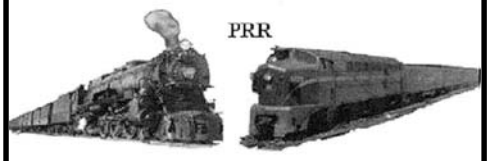
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